

Revolutions

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

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www.awgb.co.uk

A Company Limited by Guarantee - Company Number 8135399
Registered Charity Number 1150255

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Front Cover

International Demonstrators for
2024 Seminar
More details page 10

Revolutions

Copy deadline for the next
edition of Revolutions
1st August 2023

The AWGB is a Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity. It is administered by a group of elected Trustees who are also Directors of the Company. The Trustees meet at least twice each year and at the AGM. When they meet together they are known collectively as the "The Executive". Additionally, there are a number of people who assist the Trustees in their duties. These people are not elected and are known as "Volunteers".

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DATA PROTECTION

Your personal details are held on computer for the use of the AWGB. We only use this information to run the organisation. If you would like to know what information we hold and how we use it, please contact the Secretary.

Chairman's Notes

Russell Gibbs

Well by the time you read this, we will be nearly halfway through the year and I feel sure that you will all be back in your workshops to get on with more work on the lathe.

I had the pleasure of attending the Midlands Woodworking show with our President Joey Richardson where we were joined by our Webmaster Colin Spencer and past Midlands Rep Pat Murphy. Despite having a road accident on the day before the show and losing his back lights our new Midlands Rep Barrie Fisher was able to join us on the Sunday. If you have any questions then do not hesitate to contact your Regional Representative or any member of the Executive.

We had the Northern half of the Instant Gallery selection of 25 chosen items from the 2022 Seminar.

It was a very bad weekend forecast with snow and ice predicted, in fact the M62 was closed overnight Thursday which possibly accounted for the lowish turnout on the Friday, but it was more than made up for on the Saturday. We met with many members to discuss existing matters and managed to facilitate 9 memberships purchased (5 new & 4 Renewals) to the Association.

We have added a reusable Mug with a screw on lid to protect the drink from shavings and that was well received and sold well, your Regional Reps will have stocks of these available for face to face purchase.



The small metal Pin Badge has had a design review and is now on sale from the Secretary see page 27.

We will also have hopefully run a successful AWGB AGM as announced in previous issues of Revolutions, it will be / was held on Sunday the 30th April at 13:00 in The Runway Room, Foundation House, Masons Road, Stratford upon Avon, CV37 9NF. Preceded at 10:00 by a meeting of members and Branch Representatives chaired by myself.

It was only in the last issue of Revolutions that I wrote that we had been re-joined on the Executive by our ex-Chairman Dave Atkinson who volunteered his extensive knowledge to be our Vice Chairman, It is with great sadness that I have to report that due to reoccurring health problems he has had to resign his post but has promised to help us in any way that is possible. I'm sure that you will all join me in sending him and his family good wishes

Work continues on the organisation of the 2024 AWGB International Woodturning Seminar with the same location, Yarnfield Park, Staffordshire, having been booked for the 4th to 6th October 2024. The Executive has now agreed the 10 demonstrators they are engaging and contracts are being signed by them, There is an article elsewhere in this edition announcing the demonstrators and announcing the



prices (including the Early Bird price). We hope that you approve of our choices and make the effort to attend, there is much work to be undertaken before the event but I feel sure that the Executive are up to it.

So far this year we are giving financial support to some 7 members over two instances of the Certificate in Woodturning courses organised by The Worshipful Company of Turners (WCT).

Don't forget that the Association has a number of grant schemes to help both clubs and individuals, the grant structure and application forms can be found on the AWGB web site at <https://www.awgb.co.uk/documents/>. Requests for grants have crept up on us and we have a meeting arranged in the near future to adjudicate these

We are still looking for a Regional Representative for the South East, these are not difficult jobs and can be very rewarding, speak to any of the Executive if you think that you could help out.

Our programme of Member Training Workshops continues to thrive with, as I write, ten events advertised on the website <https://www.awgb.co.uk/training/training-workshop-dates/>.

There are also 3 Youth training events advertised, <https://www.awgb.co.uk/training/youth-training/>, don't forget membership of the AWGB for under 21's is free.

Instructor training to gain the coveted AWGB Tutor Badge continues to be popular with many apace with 20 being awarded to date this year with for a further 15 members set to undertake the assessment shortly. We believe that this award should be attempted by all those tutoring in clubs and at home with friends to ensure that a comparable level of training can be given across the craft.

The updated Demonstrator training courses were due to be trialled but are at the moment on hold due to ill health in the development team, members on the waiting list are being kept informed we hope to recommence this course very soon.

I had a good meeting with the Master of the WCT at Newark Woodworking Show, he is interested in reviewing the Youth Training, I informed him that we had commenced a review with Dave Atkinson and Peter Bradwick, we agreed to have a combined meeting to discuss.

I will remind you again that 19th October 2023, a date for your diary, the Worshipful Company will be running their Competitions at Pewterers' Hall, London some of which are of course open to AWGB members, this is a great opportunity to not only win prizes but to also offer your works for sale at a prestigious event. Prizes will be presented at the end of the public opening on 19th October 2023.

Finally, as always, we are on the look out for people to assist with the running of the Association and in particular we are looking for someone with Social Media skills (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram) to spread the word to both members and non-members. If you would like to help in any way, please contact myself or a member of the Executive (Contact details on Page 3 of this newsletter).

Treasurers report 30th April 2023

Mike Mansfield

In my opinion the most informative document for the members of the association is the one that has been distributed and will appear in this is of Revolutions. It endeavours to show the state of the charity's reserves together with the financial activities of the year. The emphasis is on the benefit that the charity brings to its members compared to the costs of its administration. The comparative figures for 2021 are included although that year did not include the costs of the seminar but did suffer the effects of the Covid Pandemic.

The overall benefit to members in the form of grants, insurance, training, Revolutions and the running of the seminar amount to £70,000 against administration of £16,000. As our income has only been £74,000 there has had to have been some diminution in our reserves. There has been a considerable increase in the demand for demonstrator and discretionary grants, and in the cost of distributing Revolutions. The end of covid restrictions has allowed the executive and members to meet in person with an increase in governance costs and meeting expenses. Against this there was an income from the seminar of some £7,000.

The charity has made a deficit of some £12,000 this year (£13,644 in 2021) which was broadly in line with the budget for the year. This leaves our reserves at £64,000. £20,000 is separated to cover winding down costs in the event of the charity failing and some £8,000 should be kept covering losses carried in the trading company. This leaves £36,000 free reserves.

The proposed increase in subscription together with increasing membership post covid and the associated gift aid should just about cover the current deficit but the proposed increase in the demonstrator grant will cost £3200, and the increased show activities could put us back into deficit, but at a much-reduced level.

On a brighter note, the association has recently been awarded a further £5,000 for the Nina and Roger Stewart fund which currently stands at £6,300.

Full copies of the accounts can be made available on request to the treasurer.

Revolutions

We can deliver Revolutions in both paper and electronic format. All members we have email addresses for will initially receive both formats.

If you are happy to receive both formats, you don't need to do anything but if you would prefer just the paper version, just the electronic version or neither, and that if you want to change your preference to email John Peachey -datamanager@awgb.co.uk with your choice, but if you are happy with things as they are you need do nothing.



Annual Accounts 2022

The above summary financial information has been produced specially for the Annual Review. The summary financial information has been extracted from the full statutory accounts of The Association of Woodturners of Great Britain which provide much greater detail about the charity and its activities and which readers should refer to for a full understanding of the charity's financial position. The full statutory accounts were subject to an independent examiner's report, which was unqualified.

Copies of the full statutory accounts can be obtained from The Association of Woodturners of Great Britain's office at 27 Grenville Meadows, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, PL22 0JS.

AWGB Charity	2022 Actuals	2021 Actuals
Balance sheet	£	£
Cash at bank	68,511	96,361
Other assets	1	0
Debtors	11,696	966
Total Assets	80,207	97,327
Less Creditors & deferred income	-14,609	-19,338
Net Assets/ Total Reserves	65,598	77,989

Charity Income

Memberships		
Individual Memberships	49,677	46,007
Associate Memberships	2,880	2,745
Corporate Memberships	1,050	1,215
Gift Aid Rents from HMRC	6,809	6,534
Total Membership Income	60,417	56,501
Seminar sales	5,773	6,410
Donation	5,018	0
Training Fees	1,154	2,015
Revolutions advertising	1,739	1,895
Bank Interest	29	10
Miscellaneous Income	0	1,372
Total Income	74,130	68,203

Charity Expenditure	2022 Actuals	2021 Actuals
	£	£
Grants to clubs		
Grants - Demonstrator	14,700	11,400
Grants - Discretionary	4,683	1,433
Grants - Events	240	1,000
Grants - Covid	0	4,137
Total Sums granted	19,624	17,970
Other Membership Benefit Costs		
Revolutions printing & distribution cost	21,533	17,792
Seminar costs	13,587	17,963
Training	9,406	8,939
Affiliates Public Liability Insurance	6,405	6,825
Total Membership Benefits	50,931	51,519
Administrative Expenses		
General Insurance	753	737
Governance Costs	3,122	774
Show Costs	1,612	744
Travel and Subsistence costs	3,352	3,957
Membership Costs	870	270
Office Costs	4,744	4,745
Bank, PP, CoHo Fees	273	357
Advertising, Trophies and Prizes	1,202	734
Membership of HCA	40	40
Total Administrative Costs	15,968	12,358
Total Expenditure	86,522	81,847
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	-12,393	-13,644

Yew and resin bowl

Harry Rodwell

Hello, my name is Harry Rodwell and I am currently a 16 year old sixth form student. I completed this project independently at school using their Union Graduate lathe. This project started off as an idea to use resin with a live edge piece of wood. This was my first ever resin project and only my 6th or 7th bowl. It is made of Yew wood and clear resin, I added blue dye to this resin but obviously this was not enough as it appears very transparent. However I think I prefer this look as it complements the wood well.



1. I started off with gluing two pieces of Yew together with the edges facing each other. The idea behind this was to create almost a channel in which I could pour the resin and when turned would look very natural with as few straight lines as possible. After the glue had dried i sealed the sides with plywood and silicone and prepared to pour



2. I poured around 1 kg of resin into the wood, I needed much more than I thought. This was because the resin seeped into the depth of a knot in the wood. Resin usually takes a few days before it is fully hard and should be left longer before worked with. However I poured this piece on a Friday night and was turning by Monday. I think mainly because it was left in a warm room which helped the curing process.



3. The pour was mostly a success apart from the fact I had a leak. I think this was down to the knot in the wood leaking the thinner resin through, alongside a poor job of sealing the sides. Overall this wasn't too detrimental, as the resin got thicker it stopped leaking and I patched the suspected leak area with parcel tape during the pour.

4. After this had set I removed the square piece from my mould and cut the edges off using a bandsaw so It was easier to turn. At this point you can see the resin "window" formed on the side of the bowl and see how it may look when finished.

5. As I rounded the bowl I realised the difficulty of turning resin. It is surprisingly extremely hard when set, almost more so than wood. Which makes the process rather similar to

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6/7. Hollowing out the middle was easy at first as it was just the same as a normal wooden bowl. I wanted to make sure I made the walls thin enough so the resin could be seen from both sides.



woodturning, however long strands of plastic mess are produced opposed to wood shavings. Along with this hardness comes brittleness and if you do not persist with soft passes then it can be easy to cause a catch. Which is much more obvious in resin. A small catch can be seen in this image near the top of the bowl.



Development and Training

Young Turners Training Programme

Date	Topic/Technique		Venue
August 12th 2023	Various Projects and techniques Workshop Health & Safety	Les Thorne	The Woodturners Shop, Four Marks Hampshire
November 25th 2023	Various Projects and techniques Workshop Health & Safety	Les Thorne	The Woodturners Shop, Four Marks Hampshire

Applications are invited for places by 12-21 year old Young Turners on 'Young Turners Training days'

For application forms and information visit... www.awgb.co.uk
Or contact... Ron Caddy - 07903 313065 e-mail youthtraining@awgb.co.uk

8. As I got to the interior resin part the hollowing out suddenly got much more difficult. At this angle using a bowl gouge caused constant catches and I needed to use a combination of higher speed, sharper chisels and softer passes. Similar projects I have seen using resin online swear by carbide tip chisels for this work as catches are less prominent. However, for this bowl I only had traditional tools.



9. After I had the shape I liked it came to sanding - I must note that whenever you are sanding resin you must wear some kind of breathing ppe as the dust produced is very fine. I started off with an 80 grit and worked up to 1200 grit.



Overall I am very happy with this project and would like to pursue more resin and wood projects in the future. Although i'm happy with the bowl, there are a few things I would do differently:

10/11. In these images the bowl is seen sanded up to 1200 grit however not finished. I wanted to get the resin as clear as possible and surprisingly 1200 grit more or less did the job however there was still an essence of cloudiness. So I finished it using a resin polishing compound then applied Danish Oil.

12/13. The finished product, finished at 1200 grit with polishing compound and Danish Oil. There are some imperfections, as seen in photo 12 there is a slight chip in the very bottom of the bowl however I was fearful of working it down more as I was very close to going through the bottom.



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1. If I were to do it again I would try and find a whole piece of wood instead of gluing two pieces together, even though the grains match up fairly well a line can still be seen through the center of the bowl

2. The bubbles- as seen in image 13 when observed closely you can see a lot of very small bubbles in the piece, This is a problem in all resin projects and usually alleviated with a heat gun - which I used, however I believe air seeped through from the knot in the wood while setting and causes there to be bubbles. This could have been alleviated by either fully sealing the knot or using a small vacuum chamber.

3. I would maybe use carbide tip chisels for the next resin project - mainly for turning the bowl portion, just so I could avoid as many catches as possible.

4. Due to the lack of cole jaws/vacuum chuck etc at my disposal I was not able to make the bottom of the bowl concave or get rid of the holding recess on the base. This is fine and is featured on all of my projects however I would have liked to remove this if I could have.

Teaching success at Coombe Abbey Woodturners

Eric Taylor

A worthwhile breakthrough following COVID closures, Coombe Abbey Woodturners Club has successfully had five members who have earned AWGB creditation for teaching new members, this will help us to give more lessons in our workshop and hopefully encourage more people into the art of Woodturning.

A session was arranged with the AWGB for January 12th 2023 with Steve Gordon development officer and Dave Atkinson carrying out the examination. The session was held in our workshop at Coombe Abbey Country Park on the outskirts of Coventry, and commenced at 10 am, the first two were Phil Steele and Giles Headley, to begin with each member had to demonstrate their knowledge and how they would introduce new people to the art of Woodturning i.e. all about the lathe, the stance and the various parts of the machine and the tools that were to be used, then go through a lesson with a new applicant at the lathe. The first two pupils were Andy McDonald and Frank Barnes.

As a club we offer two, two hour lessons free of charge, after the two lessons the person would have to decide whether they wished to continue with woodturning or not, if their answer is yes they need to join our club and the AWGB as we are affiliated, if they decline there is no further action taken. The lessons are free but the pupil can donate to our nominated charity which is the Air Ambulance.

The next members were Pat Hanley and Lee Cartwright with two trainees Tony Nicholson and John Parkes again the results were very good and the assessors were quite happy, by this time it was lunchtime, once refreshment time was over it was time for the last member Don Kildin at the lathe, again everything went according to plan with Don being a little apprehensive but he coped very well and again satisfied the assessor Steve Gordon. Dave Atkinson had already left to go to another appointment. After the five members had finished their examinations Steve was quite happy, they all received their certificates. We as a club can now hopefully continue to grow with more new members joining after some successful lessons in our Coombe Abbey Workshop.

The pupil for Don's lesson was Michelle Standbridge who is the wife of one of our members, she also helps in the kitchen on the days we have demonstrations. Michelle seems to have taken naturally to woodturning and both husband and wife will be very good for our clubs future, along with the other pupils who we hope will attend events and demonstrations.

We wish our five club members many thanks for taking part in the training programme and hope they continue giving lessons to anyone wishing to learn the art of woodturning so carrying this art into the future.

I hope this will encourage everyone to help take Woodturning into the future.

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The 17th International Woodturning Seminar will take place at
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Stone Staffordshire ST15 0NL

from 4-6 October 2024

The event will run from Friday lunchtime to Sunday afternoon.



We have 10 of the best International Turners from around the world showing their skills and passing on their experiences and knowledge, freely and with passion.



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New Zealand



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UK



Jan Hoven
Holland



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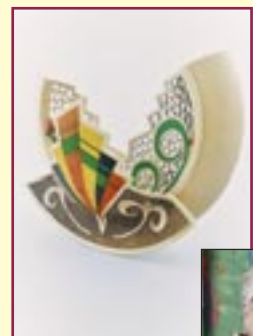
David O'Neill
Ireland



Neil Joynt
New Zealand



Yann Marot
France



Margaret Garrard
UK



Mick Hanbury
UK



Throughout the event we have trade stands, a raffle and of course the instant gallery where we encourage everyone to bring up to 3 pieces of their best work to display.

Make this a date in your diary, you won't regret it! The seminar is open to AWGB members and non-members alike. We look forward to seeing you there! You can book using the booking form in this issue of *Revolutions* or you can book on the website at **awgbwoodturningseminar.co.uk**



Simon Hope
UK

The early bird rate is open until the end of Feb 2024 You may pay a 50% deposit and the balance 4 weeks before the Seminar or you can pay in full. All bookings are guaranteed and will be refunded in full if the event doesn't go ahead.

**AWGB International Seminar 4th to 6th October 2024****Booking Form**

The accommodation comprises en-suite double and twin rooms, and there are a number of accessible rooms. We are pleased to offer a range of attendance options. Please select the quantity required. If you have any particular needs or requests please note them below. (All costs include VAT)

Early Bird Discount applies if you pay 50% before 31 March 2024.

Package	Description	Cost	Early Bird Cost	Quantity	Total Cost
A	Full Weekend incl Accommodation and Meals	£490.00	£460.00		
AT	Full Weekend incl Accommodation and Meals with Twin room for Two People	£900.00	£840.00		
AD	Full Weekend incl Accommodation and Meals with Double room for Two People	£900.00	£840.00		
B	Full Weekend incl Lunches, No Accommodation or Evening Meals	£355.00	£335.00		
C	Friday incl Lunch, No Evening Meal	£105.00	£100.00		
D	Saturday incl Lunch, No Evening Meal	£155.00	£145.00		
E	Sunday incl Lunch	£115.00	£105.00		
F	Saturday incl Lunch & Evening Meal	£170.00	£160.00		
G	Full weekend for second person - shared room accommodation & meals only - no access to demonstrations.	£235.00	£220.00		
Total Cost					

Name (as you would like it on your badge)	
Address (inc Postcode)	
Email address	
Tel Number	
Membership Number (if applicable)	
Please advise any particular requirements (diet, access etc)	

Data Protection: The information you provide on this form will be used solely for dealing with you as a member of the AWGB; to inform you of AWGB news and to administer your attendance at AWGB events. By signing this form you are giving consent for the AWGB to use your data as described in our privacy policy which can be found at www.awgb.co.uk/privacy-policy. Your data will be used and stored in accordance with this policy.

Payment:

Early Bird: 50% deposit on booking before 31 March 2024, remainder due 4 weeks prior to the seminar

Non-Early Bird: 50% deposit on booking after 31 March 2024, remainder due 4 weeks prior to the seminar.

NB If you are unable to attend your deposit may be refunded at the discretion of the AWGB.

I have paid by cheque/bank transfer/international bank transfer (delete as appropriate). We are unable to take card payments by telephone. Card payments can be made on the website or by sending a payment through PayPal to awgbtrading@awgb.co.uk

Signed:

Date:

Payment by cheque payable to **AWGB Trading Ltd**, or

Bank transfer to sort code 09-01-28, Account number 41132390 (use family name/2024 as reference) or

From overseas IBAN: GB88ABBY09012841132390 (use family name/2024 as reference)

Please send this form (with cheque if appropriate) to: Jeff Belcher Oak House, Hanley Castle, Worcester WR8 0BJ

Tel: 07798 746296 Email: seminar@awgb.co.uk

Burcot Woodturners Celebrated Their 25th Anniversary

At their monthly meeting on the 6th of April, Burcot Woodturners celebrated the 25th anniversary since the club was first affiliated to the AWGB.

Formed in 1997 by professional turner Richard Barnes, the club initially met at Burcot Forge and was intended to be a friendly place for woodturners of all abilities and experience to meet. On the 5th of April 1998 the club was affiliated to the AWGB, and shortly after moved to Burcot Village Hall which has been its home ever since.



To mark the milestone, the club held a celebration of the past 25 years and were joined by over 50 members and guests.

The AWGB were represented by Training and Development Trustee, Steve Gordon and Midlands Regional Representative Barrie Fisher, both of whom saw at first hand the work the club has done to reinvigorate itself since Covid and prepare for the next 25 years.



Throughout the evening members had the use of a club lathe and the club pole lathe, to practice their turning skills on and learn new techniques. There was an extensive display of members work on display, and members had the opportunity to have a go at a technical competition, which involved changing the jaws on a chuck.

Over the years the club has been involved with many outdoor events in addition to its monthly meetings. A slide show of photographs from these meetings and events ran

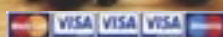
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during the evening and brought back a lot of memories for members. The club ethos of 'a cuppa, a biscuit, and a chat' was, for one night, replaced by 'a cuppa, a slice of cake, and the sharing of stories from the last 25 years.



Club President, John Smith, thanked everyone for coming and said that it was a fantastic evening for the club to mark its 25th anniversary. He added that he was proud that the club was going from strength to strength, with new members joining each month, a brand new website, Facebook and Instagram pages, and a special anniversary logo which will be used for the rest of the year.

Here is to the next 25 years of turning at Burcot!

Burcot 25th Anniversary 2023

Barrie Fisher - Midland Rep

Firstly I would like to thank the Burcot Woodturners for the invitation to attend the event on behalf of the AWGB for their 25th which is only one day out in addition to Steve Gordon being in attendance from the AWGB.

Burcot Woodturners were formed back in 1997 by a professional woodturner named Richard Barnes. The club being created for people of similar interests to meet up and gain a better experience in the art of woodturning for both additional skills and developing peoples underpinning knowledge.

They have a monthly meeting which is always on the first Thursday of the month with everyone being welcomed, and at present their numbers are growing through some very hard work by the committee. For this event the committee has thrown the doors wide open for the club members to take along their partners and also members of other clubs who had also been invited to attend the event and to enjoy the evening along with the members of Burcot.

During the evening there was two lathes being used by members during the hands on session, one lathe being an Axminster and the other being a pole lathe, the members were hoping to have party mood throughout the evening. The club had a raffle with prizes being donated by it's club members.

A vote of thanks went out to the committee for all of the hard work that they had put in to develop the club and expand it's membership.

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* Magic doesn't actually exist and Harry Potter isn't real.

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As Pontes Association of Friends of Wood

Ron Wicks

It gave me great pleasure to read in the March issue of *Revolutions* the most interesting article by Paul Hannaby on the As Pontes Association of Friends of Wood, the only overseas Club associated to the AWGB. Woodturning Clubs are rare in Spain and this is probably the most successful. Apart from their bi-weekly Club meetings and Exhibitions and Demonstrations in their area, they have the responsibility of organising the annual Encontro de Torneiros de Galicia (Woodturning Convention of Galicia), the only real woodturning event in the whole of Spain.

This annual Convention was started in 2001 in a rural workshop/Rural Tourism Hostel deep in the countryside of Galicia with probably only a few Woodturners attending. By 2005, my first visit, it had expanded to some 25/30 turners and had an exhibition in the nearby village of Xermade. At this time the quality of woodturning was good but fairly basic as they were slowly learning their skills and techniques. Within a few years the number of Woodturners had expanded to well over 100 and the Convention was moved completely to the Sports Hall in Xermade and has continued to expand exponentially with several hundred now exhibiting their pieces. Inspired initially by the late Fernando Perez, their local talented turner, and the numerous professional Demonstrators, the quality of workmanship and innovation is now of a high international standard.

The Convention is held over three days and there are usually four professional demonstrators, usually one British, two other internationals and one Spanish. Some years one is a blind Spanish turner. Every year Manuel Castro (Lolo) demonstrates his wizardry with their traditional hooktool of which he is a complete master.

Two suppliers attend, one of which is the main supplier of woodturning machinery, tools and equipment based in Mallorca (TornyFusta) and the other general woodworking supplies and timber (Comerciales Pazos).

There are several long trestle tables on which attendees can book space to exhibit and sell their pieces and the variety and craftsmanship is exemplary. On the last day, a group of Judges select some 50 pieces from the exhibitors, plus one piece donated by each demonstrator, to form that year's Itinerant Exhibition (Contornos) which is displayed at various venues around Spain and at the next Convention.

As this Convention is funded by the Provincial Government of Galicia there is no attendance fee. Entrance to all, Woodturners and public, is completely free, so there is no record of the numbers attending but it must pass some 300 to 400 over the 3 days. Each year there is a specially designed commemorative Tee-shirt on sale.

If any member is touring in the Galicia region of Spain they would be most warmly welcome to visit this friendly associated Club; look them up on the AWGB website. If they happen to be in the area in the third week of September (15th-17th for 2023) then a visit to the Convention would be a most interesting and rewarding experience. Excellent, friendly accommodation can be found at Casa Rural de

Artesania de a Fraga (casadafraga.com) which is where the Convention was first held. Some form of transport is preferable as this is rural Spain with no public transport.

Much information about these Conventions can be found simply by internet searching for "Encontro de Torneriros de Galicia" with many websites available.

A demonstration of the hook-tool (Llerga in Galicia) can be found by searching for "Manuel Castro Lolo Tornero".

There will be a three week exhibition of woodturning at

Nature in Art

near Gloucester from

September 12th - October 1st inclusive

(open 10-5 every day except Mondays).

The AWGB Travelling exhibition will be on display along with a collection of work from the RPT up and coming turners and others too.

Admission charges:

Adults £7.00

Concessions* £6.50 (over 60s and under 16s)

Website <https://natureinart.org.uk>



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Organic Shape and Oddments

Malcolm Thorpe

I have been turning for more years than I like to think about and have accumulated a large amount of timber. In an attempt to tidy-up, a number of items (1) turned up that would only make a shallow bowl. There were some interesting timbers and I started matching shapes and sizes of complementary woods to make a trinket box.



I have always been fascinated by the shape of the sea urchin (2), which is nature's way of equalising the tension in the fragile skeleton for the life under water. The shape has a continuously varying curve and it seemed logical to apply this shape to the oddly assorted timber I had found. I chose a piece of Salmon Gum burr (3) 130 mm dia. by 25mm thick and a piece of Elm 180mm dia. by 38 mm thick.



To make the box first mount the base on a screw chuck and clean up the outside diameter (4). Turn the front face flat (5). Glue a waste block 50mm dia by 50mm long to the base with a chucking point (6). This will save wasting timber and give space for turning the complete curve from base to top.



Next mount the top for the underside to be turned. The box will need a handle so drill a hole for a screw chuck. Use a larger drill than normal and put a small chamfer on the top, this will stop the screw chuck damaging the surface of the blank. Use a spacer to keep a minimum of thread in the work piece. Face off the blank and clean up the diameter. Turn a register 4mm deep and 8 to 10 mm wide ensuring the face is flat and the register at 90 degrees (7). Next contour the inside using the cross section diagram as a guide. Aim for a thickness of 6-8 mm, with a central boss 10-12 mm thick and 20mm wide. Take care around the screw chuck thread. Sand and polish the inside. (8).

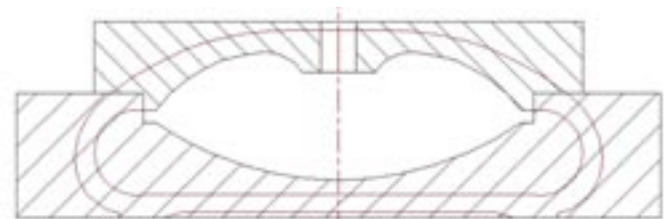


Figure 1 Cross section

Next mount the base in the scroll chuck and clean up the face flat. Partially scoop out the inside and make a jam chuck (9) for the top/lid. Do not make the fit too tight as the top will need to be removed to check the wall thickness. Use the tailstock for support during the bulk of the turning. I do not believe in wasting timber so each piece is unique, based on the original proportions of thicknesses and diameters. Cut a register for the foot 2mm deep roughly the diameter of the top, this will give a firm base and the eye will follow the curve giving the piece a lift.



Turn the corner into a smooth curve up to about half the thickness of the base and continue with the upper curve. The sea urchin shape calls for a parabolic continuously varying

radius (see cross section). This needs good hand-eye co-ordination while steadily removing the unwanted wood (11). Do not take too much off the joint face as there is only about a millimetre spare. This can be checked by gently removing the top using the screw chuck thread. When getting close, check how the curve is forming by using a long glue stick bent around the curve to indicate the high points (10). Subtle undulations can be felt with the fingertips, remove them by shear scraping or with a square scraper. When happy with the shape sand down to 400 grit abrasive, seal and polish (12).



screw. Give the edge a light sanding for safe handling (14). Remount the base and lightly sand the joint register to give the lid a free fit, so that the box can be accessed one-handed. The outer edge of the joint on the base needs a little extra sanding, taking the sharp edge away to match the top. Seal and add a coat of wax polish.

Reverse mount the base on a jam chuck, with the support of the tailstock, remove the scrap chucking point. I use a thin parting tool close to the work, cutting to about 12mm dia and finally cutting off with a saw. Bring up the tailstock and profile the base (15). Sand and polish (16)

All that is left is a handle. If it is going on display then a slender finely turned finial would suit, but I think they are too fragile and pointed for practical use. The shape can range from a simple sphere to a short finial.

Remove the lid and finish opening out the base. The undercut is quite severe and I found the carbide ring cutter the easiest tool to use. Unlike a normal bowl the base is flat so the same care that was taken over the smooth curve should be applied to getting the base flat. Sand and polish the inside, taking care of the joint face (13).

The lid has a sharp edge, so mount the lid on a scrap piece in the chuck, profiled to suit the top. Secure with a central

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The material should be selected to give a highly polished finish with a good feel, mostly found in exotics such as Rosewood, Bloodwood, Ebony or Partridge wood as above samples. More exotic could be artificial ivory, Tagua palmtree or Betel nut.

I decided to try a Betel nut, available from oriental shops known as Supari. Make a carrier from a hardwood such as African Blackwood, about 22mm dia. Turn a register to suit the hole in the lid, which is drilled 4mm by 8mm deep (21). Partially part off the carrier making a 4 mm dia spigot for a pip to fit in the underside of the lid. Cut off the carrier and the pip with a saw (22).



Betel nuts often have a random fissure in the centre and variable colour. To prepare: turn a cove into a scrap piece in the chuck and using hot melt glue fix the dome end of the nut in the cove. Face off the nut, clean up the outside, and drill the base 7mm x 7mm deep (23). If there are no bad cracks and a good colour, remove from the cove.



Mount the carrier in an ER25 collet and prepare a spigot for the Betel nut (24). Glue in place with epoxy adhesive (25). The epoxy helps to stabilise the centre of the nut. Shape the handle: Betel nuts need small cuts using sharp tools. The nut does not sand well so it is better to polish with a cutting wax (26).

Photo 29 shows a selection of boxes that worked well as trinket boxes. They can be opened with one hand but also feel nice if handled. The lids have been made with highly figured timbers that catch the eye.



A Call to Arms

Greetings fellow timber spinners. I've been asked to write a short note to appeal for volunteers to come forward and offer their services to the executive committee. We're looking for keen and enthusiastic members willing to help at shows, events and the seminar (next year).

We're not looking for full blown committee members, more like people with time on their hands who can help the executive as and when needed.

If you are interested, feel free to contact any of the executive for further details.

This organisation runs purely on the good grace of all those that give their time freely and sometimes we need extra help to get things done for the membership.

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Follow us on Instagram & Facebook: [Odie's Oil UK](https://www.instagram.com/odiesoil)

Presentation of Life Membership Award

At the 2022 Seminar, an AWGB Life Membership was made to the outgoing AWGB Chairman, Paul Hannaby. Unfortunately a presentation certificate and award were not available for presentation at the Seminar.

This was rectified recently when the Secretary had been invited to do a demonstration at his club, The Hereford Woodturners, where he was able to make the award in front of all his club members and fellow turners.



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Woodturners**
of Great Britain



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In August this year, Chestnut Products will be holding another of their popular WoodturningWeekenders. Following many requests to head north, this year they're taking the show to the Heywood Civic Centre, in Heywood, just outside Manchester.

As this is their fourth event, they've chosen a 4 Nations theme, inviting their headline demonstrators from England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Previous Weekenders have been hugely successful, and this year's promises to be no different. As always, the event will feature full demos from each of the four top turners, who are not only all RPT members, but also great tutors. Expect lots of great turning and loads of tips, hints and help.

This year's headline turners are:

From England, Jason Breach, an internationally renowned demonstrator who loves to push the boundaries of his creations.

From Ireland comes Joe Laird, an ever popular and entertaining turner with a wealth of knowledge to share.

From Scotland we have Richard Kennedy, a well-know face at the Harrogate show and a very experienced turner.

And coming from Wales will be Jay Heryet, another fantastic and passionate turner, and chair of the RPT.



Jason Breach



Jay Heryet



Richard Kennedy



Joe Laird

All four demonstrators will give a full demo on the main stage over the weekend. As always, the team from Popcorn Media will be on hand with a fantastic audio-visual set-up, including cameras, mics, monitors etc, to make sure the audience doesn't miss a thing. Their equipment needs to be seen - and heard - to fully appreciated.

The entertainment doesn't stop during breaks on the main stage. Around the hall will be a number of displays from local clubs, demonstrations, and selected sales stands. Plus, the headline demonstrators will be in the hall to answer questions and give extra advice and information about their demo and other turning topics.

Above all, the Woodturning Weekender is a friendly event. It's a chance to get together with other turners, catch up with old friends and make new ones.



There are plenty of opportunities to chat; either at the very reasonably priced on-site cafe during lunch, or at one of the events Chestnut Products arrange during the weekend...

On Friday night they host the 'Loong Weekender', a very informal get-together at a local venue with food and drink available to purchase. There's no need to book, just turn up - ideal for solo travellers not wanting to spend the evening alone, and a great way to break the ice for the following day.

On Saturday night Chestnut Products will host an evening meal at the Heywood Civic Centre; this is by advance ticket only and with limited numbers. It's always a fun evening with great company, good food and maybe the odd surprise or two.

Tickets start at £30, and you can find out more at www.woodturningweekender.co.uk or by calling Chestnut Products on 01473 890118. Availability is limited!





Member Training Workshops

Gary Rance

Wendover, Buckinghamshire

30th June 2023

intermediate
Box Making

Simon Hope

Great Bromley, Essex

5th July 2023

intermediate
Turning Spheres

Les Thorne

Four Marks, Hampshire

8th July 2023

intermediate
Turned Box

Gary Rance

Wendover, Buckinghamshire

15th July 2023

intermediate
thread chasing

Dennis Wake

Hartlepool Enterprise Centre, Hartlepool

2nd September 2023

beginner/intermediate
Platter

These workshops are subject to restrictions at the time and unfortunately may need to be cancelled at short notice. Due to the change in circumstances, we understand that members that have previously booked to the course last year may no longer wish to do so. We are therefore asking that everyone re-applies for the workshops. However, preference will be given to those that have been allocated places previously that were cancelled. If you have any questions, please contact our Development Officer - Steve Gordon. email at development@awgb.co.uk or tel: 07939 371420.

If a workshop is oversubscribed, there will be a ballot for places.

To apply - visit the AWGB website: www.awgb.co.uk and download an application form and send to the coordinator shown on the form. Or complete a 'Training Workshop Application' web form. Only fully completed application forms will be considered.



The Worshipful Company of Turners



Biennial Exhibition & Competitions

When: Judging on 18th October (private view in the evening), public viewing on Thursday 19th October

Where: Pewterers' Hall, Oak Lane, London EC2V 7DE

Call for Entries! Deadline
Monday 18th September 2023

The Worshipful Company of Turners' biennial turning competitions are well established in the City and Craft calendar. Use our next one to CONNECT with a London audience and potential buyers to get your name known.

Fresh opportunities in 2023 include a new category 'Master's Exhibition', which is by invitation only. Through the theme, 'Coronation', it will showcase the finest elite woodturning in the UK. Curators from the

V&A museum in London will be making a 'choice' award from this collection.

Try something new, by merging pewter, leather or both into your woodturning. **The 'Master's Mixed Media Competition'**, not only gives turners the chance to mix wood with pewter and leather, but also to work on a project and CONNECT with other skilled craftspeople. Contact Becca at assistantclerk@turnersco.com, and she will make enquiries through the Livery Companies if you wish to work with a pewterer or leatherworker.

There's also the opportunity for you to sell your work to those who are passionate about shopping for beautiful, unique handmade woodturned pieces. At the competitions, we are giving the purchaser the chance to CONNECT with you, the maker and perhaps commission their own special piece.

Details of the 10 competitions are described at: www.turnersco.com, and online entry forms are now available. Please ensure your entry form has been submitted before Monday 18th September 2023 as forms received after this date will not be accepted. No entry will be accepted without prior registration.



Key Dates

Monday 18th September

Entry forms must be received by the Assistant Clerk by close of business on Monday 18th September. If you submit your entry after this date, we cannot guarantee that your piece(s) will be entered into the competitions

Monday 2nd October

Items being delivered by post or courier should arrive at the Company offices in Saddlers' Hall, no later than 5pm on this date.

Please refer to General Conditions of entry 2023 for further details

Wednesday 18th October

All entries must be at Pewterers' Hall by noon. Please don't bring anything in person without having previously submitted an entry form before 18th September. No pieces will be entered into the

competitions without an entry form provided before 18th September.

Private View and Evening Reception (invitation only)



Thursday 19th October

10 am – 4.00 pm public view day and opportunity to buy

4.30 pm prize giving ceremony

Entries which have not been sold may be collected from Pewterers' Hall after the prize giving ceremony



Stuart Mortimer

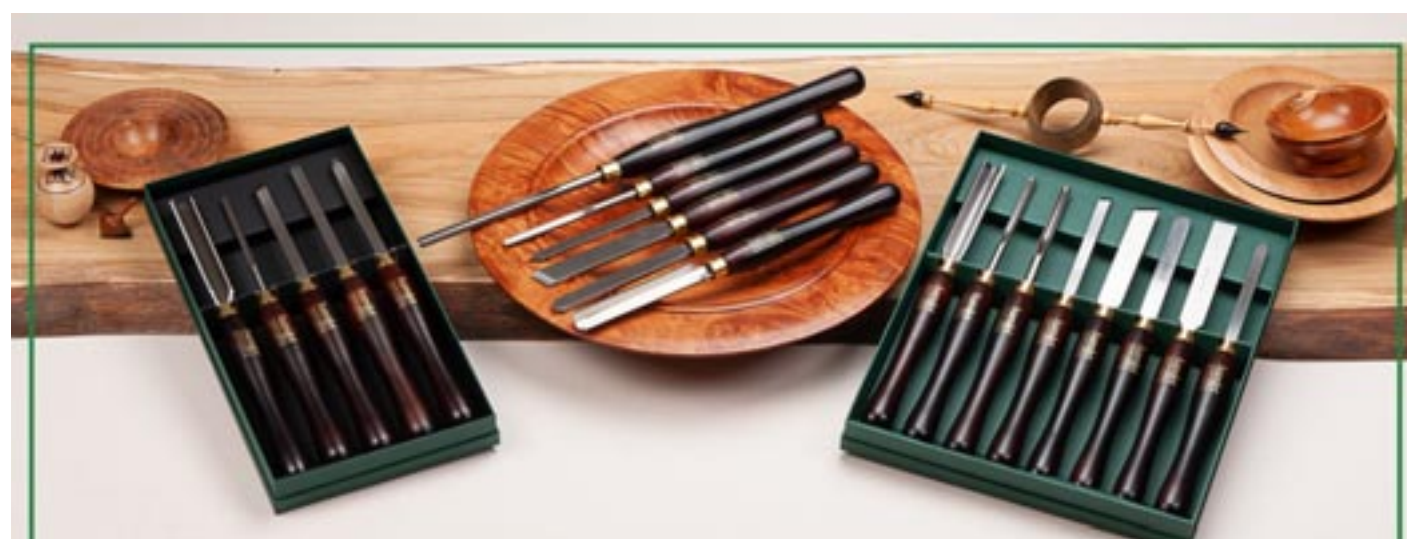
Phil Lobb – K&A Press Officer

Kennet & Avon Woodturners enjoyed an all-day demonstration by master turner Stuart Mortimer on Saturday 18 February. The K&A club members were joined by visiting turners from Northwest Wiltshire, Martock Somerset, and Weston-Super-Mare to witness what can best be described as a master class.

Stuart is an award winning, internationally known woodturner with a wide knowledge in many aspects of turning, he is probably most famous for his spiral work which was in evidence as he undertook several mini demonstrations throughout the day that included twisted finials, multi twists and other forms of decoration.

The Fifty plus AWGB members enjoyed an unforgettable day at St John's Community Hall, Upper Studley, Trowbridge the home of the Kennet & Avon club.

At the conclusion of the demonstration John Boyne-Aiken the club chairman thanked Stuart and his assistant George Shapland for travelling to West Wiltshire to provide us all with a memorable day. John also thanked his committee and in particular George Charlton and Alan Reed for organising the event with great efficiency to make it such a successful occasion.



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Lincolnshire Wolds Woodturning Association



On 10-11 Mar 2023 at the Midlands Woodworking Show, the Lincolnshire Wolds Woodturning Association exhibited over 110 items of members work along with a woodturning, pyrography and airbrushing demonstrations to the large crowds visiting the show. On the final day, they were thrilled that Emma 'The Tiny Turner' who has previously demonstrated for the Club on several occasions not only in the Village Hall at West Ashby, but also online via Zoom, was able to spare some time to carry out a very important task.

Each year, the Club's Honorary President, Mr Vic Atkinson nominates a worthy winner of the Presidents Trophy. This is awarded to a member who has provided outstanding support and service to the Club. Emma was asked if she would present the Trophy this year to the 2022 winner, Mr John Liles.

John, who turns 88 this year, is one of the Club's oldest members. He is also the longest serving and one of the founder members of the Club. Back in 1951 at 16 yrs old he left school on the Friday and started his first job woodworking on the Monday at Messers Ogles, Hardwood sawmill, Victoria St, Grimsby. A couple of his first turning jobs were making the rungs for builder's ladders and 2ft 6" net poles used by the ladies to make fishing nets. After leaving the sawmill, John worked on the fish docks, at Grimsby making wooden fish boxes for double the money he had been getting at Ogles. He then moved on to working in a chemical factory and finally, retiring at 62.



John being the youngest employee pictured here presenting a tankard to the oldest employee who was retiring after many years working at Ogles.

He had a craft unit at Waltham Mill near Grimsby where he continued woodturning for several years. He offered to help the Miller to enable him to go away for weekends, but before he knew it, the Miller had left and John was left holding the flour bag and instantly promoted to become the new Miller and had a very steep learning curve. After doing the job for a further 15 years, he finally retired again and handed it over to four new willing volunteers.

John was previously a member of the Louth Woodturning Club which unfortunately folded and he came along to Club in its early years, where, ever since he has been doing numerous demonstrations for the members in the Village Hall, at other Club events, national shows, training days and hands on nights. He never stops amazing the members with his expertise with spindle work and is affectionally known as the skew master. The Club often gets asked to help with making various items for the public and any spindle work, John is without doubt, the first person that is recommended to help.

One such job was the making of two replica ack-ack shells for the Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre at East Kirkby, near Spilsby, Lincs, home of one of the three surviving Lancaster bombers. John with his vast skills and a lathe that could take on the task, soon produced the two 1 metre long and 90mm diameter shells which were presented to the Museum who were thrilled with their new exhibit.



Since Covid, the Lincolnshire Wolds Woodturning Association now meet three times a month.

Due to two of those meetings taking place on Zoom, its does not matter where you live and as a result they are attracting new members from anywhere in the world. On the 2nd Tuesday of the month, members and guests are able to have a go on a lathe with help being given by skilled experienced turners. Then on the third Tuesday an online Workshop Night has turners set up in their workshops using Zoom breakout rooms and the camera system kindly provided by the AWGB. On the last Tuesday of the month, a professional demonstrator from around the world provides a live online interactive demonstration via Zoom providing new ideas and techniques. If you don't have a Club near you and you are interested in joining, visit their website at <https://lincswoldswoodturning.co.uk/> for more details.

AWGB Thermal Mug

We have added a reusable Mug with a screw on lid to protect the drink from shavings available from your Regional Reps who will have stocks of these available for face to face purchase at shows and events around the country.



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(details on page 3)

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More Details - and Tickets - at
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WOODTURNING 4 WEEKENDER NATIONS

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- *Thanks for a fabulous weekend. It exceeded our expectations by a country mile* – Shirley and Paul H
- *Great service, great Weekender, great company* – John



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